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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6873

BILL NUMBER: HB 1360

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 23, 2003

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Various Election Law Matters.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Richardson

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: The bill provides that materials generated by a party convention or caucus to nominate candidates are the political party's property. The bill provides that a poll clerk may make a record of individuals who have signed the poll list and make that list available to a watcher or pollbook holder. The bill makes changes in the standards for the eligibility of delegates to a town convention. The bill makes changes relating to deadlines for a committee to file its statement of organization, the printing of candidate names on the ballot, and holding primaries when candidates are unopposed. The bill makes various technical changes in statutes relating to voter registration.

Effective Date: Upon passage; July 1, 2004.

Explanation of State Expenditures: Under the bill, a candidate committee would be considered a regular party committee for the purpose of filing a statement of organization under IC 3-9-1-3 if the committee were to accept contributions or would make expenditures during a calendar year for election of a candidate for state, legislative, or local office. The total amount of contribution or expenditure would have to exceed \$100 to qualify.

If more candidate committee statements of organizations are filed as a result of this provision, the Election Division, with respect to state and legislative offices, could require an increase in administrative time to process any additional statements of organizations. Any impact to state expenditures as a result of this provision should be minimal.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: Under the bill, completed voter registration forms processed by license

branches, public assistance agencies, agencies serving disabled persons, and other general agencies would be sent to the county voter registration office. Under current law, registration forms processed by these agencies may be sent to either the circuit court clerk or the county voter registration office. There may be a shift of administrative responsibility in those counties where the circuit court clerk and the voter registration office are two separate entities. The impact of this provision to local expenditures is indeterminable and would depend on the county.

County election boards could require increased administrative time for processing any additional statements of organization for candidates of local offices that could be filed under the requirements of the bill. See *Explanation of State Expenditures* for full description.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Indiana Election Division.

Local Agencies Affected: Circuit court clerk, county voter registration office.

Information Sources:

Fiscal Analyst: Chris Baker, 317-232-9851.